QUALIFICATIONS—ASSISTANT SURGEONS

38. Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the D. G. O. is an essential qualification for Assistant Surgeons; and

(*b*) whether for purposes of promotion seniority of service will be superseded by the said Diploma?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* (*a*) No.

(*b*) No.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* I second it. May I know whether the Hon'ble Member for Medicine is aware of the reply which he gave me in regard to a question which I put on this subject in the last session.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* What was that answer, I do not remember.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* May I know whether the claims of the medical inspection staff are not taken into consideration in the matter of promotions in the Medical Department?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* My answer was that there was no question of promotion.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* Have you not said in reply that Dr. Sumithra has much better qualifications to fill the vacancy?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Madical Officer):* Yes.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* Now you say "No".

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* There is no question of promotion at all.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* Is not this D.G. O. an additional qualification.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* Yes, it is.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know what is this D.G.O.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* Diploma in Gynocology and Obstetrics.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* Is the Hon'ble Member a D.G.O.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* No.

HONORARY DOCTORS

39. Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon *(Cheruthuruthi):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the number of honorary Doctors working in the General Hospitals at Ernakulam, Trichur and in other hospitals, if any;

(*b*) if there are any specialists thus working in these hospitals;

(*c*) what is the honorarium allowed to each of such specialists in Ernakulam and Trichur?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):*

(*a*) & (*b*) Please see list below.

(*c*) Nil.

List

Name of institution	*No. of Honorary Doctors*	*No. of specialists*
General Hospital, Ernakulam	6	2
Civil Hospital, Trichur	5	1
Ophthalmic Hospital, Ernakulam	1	..
Maharaja's Hospital, Cochin	1	..
Maternity Hospital, Trichur	1	..
Cranganur Hospital	2	..
Kunnamkulam Hospital	1	..
Irinjalakkuda Hospital	2	..
Chalakkudi Hospital	2	..
Nemmara Hospital	1	..
Chittur Hospital	1	..
Narakkal Dispensary	1	..
Pudukad Dispensary	1	..
Anthikad Dispensary	2	..
Kolinjampara Dispensary	1	..

N. B.—The number of honorary doctors who have left for War Service and of those who are now working in long-standng officiating arrangements as well as those deputed recently for Cholera work, is not included in this list.

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Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon *(Cheruthuruthi)* : Does the Government wish to pay the honorarium in 1119.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer)* : Not to all.

Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon *(Cheruthuruthi)* : Can I know the names of the doctors to whom you propose to give ?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer)* : I am sorry I am not in a position to give the names. All those doctors who are getting now will continue to get it next year also.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi)* : What sort of specialised work are these two doctors doing.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer)* : One is in the X-ray Department and the other is in the Dental Department. Another doctor is also working in Trichur.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi)* : For how many years had he been there ?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer)* : I want notice.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)* : May I know whether the suggestion made by the Standing Finance Committee members in regard to the honorarium paid to these doctors and seen noted in the printed proceedings sent to us has been considered by the Government.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)* : It is being considered.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)* : Have you advanced to any slightest degree from that date till now.

Mr. President : The suggestions made by the Hon'ble Members always receive consideration from the Government.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur)* : May I hope that the consideration will be sympathetic.

Mr. President : The Government will always consider these suggestions sympathetically.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)* : What is the amount of honorarium ?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer)* : The Assistant Surgeons are paid 30 rupees and the Sub-Assistant Surgeons are paid 20 rupees.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)* : Are the Government aware that there are dearth of hands on account of the war ?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer)* : Yes.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)* : Are the Government getting as many applications as before ?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer)* : No.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)* : I saw a provision made in the Budget for a paid sub-assistant surgeon in Cranganur in case an honorary one is not available. May I know why ?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer)* : We advertised and no one was forthcoming.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)* . Will the Government be pleased to give more attractive terms to people who come here to man our departments.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer)* : That is why provision has been made for the appointment of a paid Doctor. The vacancy is that of a lady doctor.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)* : There will be a dearth of doctors and unless Government are prepared to pay them more than this 20 or 30 rupees where are you going to get doctors.

Mr. President : This special allowance was given on account of the war to certain honorary doctors working in Mattancheri and Ernakulam. The allowance is given because it is supposed that due to war conditions, due to fear of attack and other reasons many people had evacuated these places and private practice had dwindled down. The position has eased and the normal population has been restored. At the same time a number of private practitioners have left the State for war services and with labour forces. So the argument that these honorary physicians and surgeons do not get private practice is not sound. I would therefore suggest that it is not wise for the Hon'ble Member to probe into this matter and argue this case because I do not think that the case is strong.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)* : With reference to this N.B. printed at the foot of the question may I know what is the number of honorary doctors that has gone for war service.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer)* : I think it is 14. I speak subject to correction.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)* : Have you any idea of what they are getting there.

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Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* They will be paid according to the rank they hold. A Lieutenent is started on 450, Captains 650, Major 900 Lieut. Colonel 1,400 and upwards and Colonels 2,000 rupees.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Has any one of our doctors risen to the highest ranks.

Mr. President: I can say that they are not barred.

MEDICAL INSPECTION STAFF

40. Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the date on which the Medical Inspection Staff was instituted;
(*b*) the department to which it was attached;
(*c*) the department to which it is at present attached;
(*d*) the reasons for the change;
(*e*) whether at the time of its institution the staff was put up by fresh recruitment or recruitment from the Medical Department;
(*f*) whether Government are aware that the Medical Inspection Staff has been abolished in British India recently?

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):*

(*a*) In Edavam 1105.
(*b*) Medical and Sanitary Department.
(*c*) Public Health Department.
(*d*) Bifurcation of the Sanitary department from the Medical.
(*e*) Fresh Recruitment.
(*f*) No information.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* May I know whether there was any objection in retaining the medical inspection staff with the Medical Department itself.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* There were reasons.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* May I know them.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* It was suggested by the Director of Public Health that the medical inspection of schools was essentially the work of the Public Health Department. I looked into the matter and found that he was really right and that this was the system obtaining in the major provinces of India. I recommended to the Government that the suggestion may be adopted.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* Strictly speaking does it not form part of the Education Department.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* In certain provinces it is under the Education Department and in certain others it is financed by the Education Department but controlled by the Public Health Department.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* May I know whether the work of the medical department does not involve the question of public health of the country.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* The two things are different. One is preventive and the other is curative.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* May I know whether there is any objection in transferring the Medical Department to the Public Health Department.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* There is objection.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* May I know the reason.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* One is purely preventive and the other is curative as I have already stated.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North):* Does not the Medical Department look to the public health of Cochin.

Mr. President: In that sense many departments deal with the public health of Cochin, including the Food Department.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* With reference to (f) it is stated that Government have no information. Four miles away from here is British Cochin and it is wonderful that the Government of Cochin have no information about a thing which has taken place there.

Rao Sahib Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* I am sorry Sir. I will correct myself. I have written to the Madras Government and I have not received the information so far.

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